

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS ANKARA 006692

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR G/TIP, G. INL, INL/CTR, DRL, EUR/PGI, EUR/SE
DEPARTMENT FOR VALERIE KWOK USAID E&E/ECA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KCRM](#) [PHUM](#) [PGOV](#) [SMIG](#) [PREF](#) [KWMN](#) [TU](#) [TIP](#) [IN](#) [TURKEY](#)

SUBJECT: TIP IN TURKEY: SHELTERED VICTIM LEADS POLICE TO
TRAFFICKERS

REF: 04 ANK 6309

1. (U) SUMMARY: Characterizing the events that led to the arrest of at least one human trafficking network member in Corum, Turkey as a "real success story for the shelter," Human Resources Development Foundation (HRDF) Executive Director Demet Gural told Emboff that an Azeri victim resident at the Istanbul shelter led police to her traffickers. The victim did so despite her initial fears that she may be subjected to similar traumas at the hands of police or returned to the traffickers from whom she had escaped. END SUMMARY.

2. (U) "When she came to our shelter she was so frightened" that she refused to provide any details about her traffickers or the network of forced prostitution into which she was sold, Gural said. In three weeks at the shelter, however, the woman reportedly developed "a sense of security and confidence in HRDF staff and police investigators", ultimately volunteering to return to Corum and lead investigators to her traffickers. According to IOM Ankara's Countertrafficking Program Coordinator Meltem Ersoy, the victim identified at least one of the traffickers and provided written testimony to her police escorts. Police arrested the trafficker and recovered the victim's passport. IOM repatriated the victim on November 30.

3. (U) The case demonstrated a so-far effective system of cooperation between law enforcement officials and victims' assistance NGOs. Gural commented, "All through this process, the police cooperation was excellent. Police in both Ankara and Istanbul did whatever we asked them to do, including safely escorting the victim for her last visit to Corum."

4. (U) Both Ersoy and Gural were quick to caution, however, that luck, and not the still-evolving system for managing victims (reftel), played a pivotal role in the success of the operation. "It's not normal, but the woman was cooperative. We were lucky again because the victim shared a common language. We still need training for our shelter staff, we still need funding to pay their salaries, we still need money to run the hotline, we still need security for facilities, and we still need to find a permanent location."

EDELMAN